

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)  
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# NOV 1 0 2003 **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 4

## **Complete if Known**

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Application Number     | 10/628,600    |
| Filing Date            | July 28, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor   | David S. Kirn |
| Group Art Unit         |               |
| Examiner Name          |               |
| Attorney Docket Number | 624-001 Cont. |

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant<br>of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                                   |                          | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |  |  |  |
| TKM                               | 1                        | 5,185,005            |                                      | Ballantyne   | 02-09-1993   |  |
| TKM                               | 2                        | 5,492,538            |                                      | Johlin, Jr.  | 02-20-1996   |  |
| TKM                               | 3                        | 5,226,892            |                                      | Boswell  | 07-13-1993   |  |
| TKM                               | 4                        | 3,993,081            |                                      | Cussell  | 11-23-1976   |  |
| TKM                               | 5                        | 4,392,857            |                                      | Beran  | 07-12-1983   |  |
| TKM                               | 6                        | 4,913,139            |                                      | Ballew   | 04-03-1990   |  |
| TKM                               | 7                        | 5,069,206            |                                      | Crosbie  | 12-03-1991   |  |
| TKM                               | 8                        | 5,389,082            |                                      | Baugues et al.                                     | 02-14-1995   |  |
| TKM                               | 9                        | 5,815,894            |                                      | Soriano  | 10-06-1998   |  |
| TKM                               | 10                       | 4,458,385            |                                      | Espinoza   | 07-10-1984   |  |
| TKM                               | 11                       | 4,778,448            |                                      | Meer   | 10-18-1988   |  |
| TKM                               | 12                       | 4,634,425            |                                      | Meer   | 01-06-1987   |  |
| TKM                               | 13                       | 3,323,208            |                                      | J.S. Hurley, Jr.                                   | 06-06-1967   |  |
| TKM                               | 14                       | 4,249,529            |                                      | Nestor et al.                                      | 02-10-1981   |  |
| TKM                               | 15                       | 5,613,655            |                                      | Marion   | 03-25-1997   |  |
| TKM                               | 16                       | 3,896,527            |                                      | Miller et al.                                      | 07-29-1975   |  |
| TKM                               | 17                       | 4,275,485            |                                      | Hutchison  | 06-30-1981   |  |
| TKM                               | 18                       | 4,775,121            |                                      | Carty  | 10-04-1988   |  |
| TKM                               | 19                       | 5,113,717            |                                      | Plamper  | 05-19-1992   |  |
| TKM                               | 20                       | 5,535,969            |                                      | Duffy, Jr.   | 07-16-1996   |  |

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T6 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|----|
|                                   |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |
|                                   |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |    |

Examiner  
Signature

*John Mitchell*

Date  
Considered

06/24/04

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Copied from 10628001 on 06/22/2004

**PIPE**

+

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

NOV 10 2003

**Complete if Known**

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

2

of

4

Application Number

10/628,600

Filing Date

July 28, 2003

**First Named Inventor**

David S. Kirn

### Group Art Unit

**Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket Number

624-001 Cont.

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
|                                |                       | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |   |   |  |
| TKM                            | 21                    | 4,514,882            |                                      | Lavielle  | 05-07-1985  |  |
| TKM                            | 22                    | 4,193,174            |                                      | Stephens  | 03-18-1980  |  |
| TKM                            | 23                    | 5,115,542            |                                      | Gehres  | 05-26-1992  |  |
| TKM                            | 24                    | 4,176,756            |                                      | Gellman   | 12-04-1979  |  |
| TKM                            | 25                    | 3,705,586            |                                      | Sarracino                                       | 12-12-1972  |  |
| TKM                            | 26                    | 3,744,104            |                                      | Ford  | 07-10-1973  |  |
| TKM                            | 27                    | 5,817,103            |                                      | Bell  | 10-06-1998  |  |
| TKM                            | 28                    | 5,624,430            |                                      | Eton et al.                                     | 04-29-1997  |  |
| TKM                            | 29                    | 5,975,335            |                                      | Zinreich  | 08-18-1998  |  |
| TKM                            | 30                    | 4,244,362            |                                      | Anderson  | 01-1981   |  |
| TKM                            | 31                    | 4,284,076            |                                      | Hall  | 08-1981   |  |
| TKM                            | 32                    | 4,431,005            |                                      | McCormick                                       | 02-1984   |  |
| TKM                            | 33                    | 5,389,082            |                                      | Baugues et al.                                  | 02-1995   |  |
| TKM                            | 34                    | 5,398,679            |                                      | Freed   | 03-1995   |  |
| TKM                            | 35                    | 5,492,538            |                                      | Johlin, Jr.                                     | 02-1996   |  |
| TKM                            | 36                    | 5,555,881            |                                      | Rogers et al.                                   | 09-1996   |  |
| TKM                            | 37                    | 5,782,236            |                                      | Ess   | 07-1998   |  |
| TKM                            | 38                    | 5,806,516            |                                      | Beattie   | 09-1998   |  |
| TKM                            | 39                    | 6,029,668            |                                      | Freed   | 02-2000   |  |
| TKM                            | 40                    | 6,067,985            |                                      | Islava  | 05-2000   |  |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner  
Signature

Lana Mitchell

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Considered**

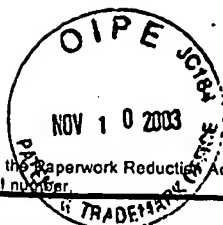
06/26/04

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Copied from 10628001 on 06/22/2004



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

|   |   |                          |               |                        |               |
|---|---|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Substitute for form T449A/PTO   |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |               |                        |               |
|   |   | Application Number       | 10/628,600    |                        |               |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |   | Filing Date              | July 28, 2003 |                        |               |
|   |   | First Named Inventor     | David S. Kirm |                        |               |
|   |   | Art Unit                 |               |                        |               |
|   |   | Examiner Name            |               |                        |               |
| Sheet   | 3 | of                       | 4             | Attorney Docket Number | 624-001 Cont. |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS             |                          |                 |                                   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                   |                          | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
| TKM                               | 41                       | US-             | 6,394,092                         | 05-2005                        | Barrett et al.                                     |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-             |                                   |                                |  |   |

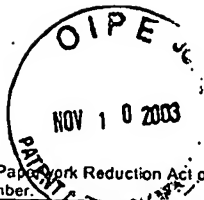
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS          |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T6 |
|                                   |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | -Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |    |
| TKM                               | 42                       |                           | EP 0 567 029   | 10-27-1993                     | Orr  |   |    |

|                       |                |                    |          |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | Leron Mitchell | Date<br>Considered | 06/26/04 |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

|   |                        |                          |               |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO   |                        | <b>Complete if Known</b> |               |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |                        | Application Number       | 10/628,600    |
|   |                        | Filing Date              | July 28, 2003 |
|   |                        | First Named Inventor     | David S. Kirn |
|   |                        | Group Art Unit           |               |
|   |                        | Examiner Name            |               |
| Sheet 4 of 4  | Attorney Docket Number | 624-001 Cont.            |               |

| OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                |
|--|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>                     | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T <sup>2</sup> |
| TKM  | 43                    | THOMAS N. ZWENG, MD, FACS; BRADLEY B. HILL, MD; and WILLIAM E. STRODEL, MD, FACS, An Improved Technique for Securing Nasoenteral Feeding Tubes, Journal of the American College of Surgeons, September 1996, Volume 183  |                |
| TKM  | 44                    | MARC J. POPOVICH, MD; JOHN D. LOCKREM, MD; and JOEL B. ZIVOT, MD, Nasal Bridle Revisited: An Improvement in the Technique to Prevent Unintentional Removal of Small-Bore Nasoenteric Feeding Tubes, Crit Care Med 1996 Vol. 24, No. 3                          |                |
| TKM  | 45                    | BRANDT, C.P., MITTENDORF, E.A., Endoscopic placement of nasojejunal feeding tubes in ICU patients. Surgical Endoscopy (1999) 13:1211-1214. Springer-Verlag, New York.  |                |
| TKM  | 46                    | MEER, J.A., A New Nasal Bridle for Securing Nasoenteral Feeding Tubes. J. Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, Vol. 13, No. 3 (1989). American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.  |                |
| TKM  | 47                    | BARROCAS, A., JASTRAM, C. et al., The Bridle: Increasing the Use of Nasoenteric Feedings. Nutritional Support Services, Vol. 2, No. 8, Aug. 1982.  |                |

|                    |                       |                 |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | <i>Jenna Mitchell</i> | Date Considered | <i>06/26/04</i> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.